

MERCY Academy



















#grwMERCY

GET READY WITH MERCY

Welcome to MERCY ACADEMY





At Mercy, we empower young women to discover their gifts, unlock their full potential, and become confident, compassionate leaders. Guided by our core values and Catholic faith, our students walk across the graduation stage with pride, purpose, and principled leadership.

Teachers at Mercy are more than educators; they are mentors who challenge students through rigorous, real-world learning in a supportive, and caring environment. Students are prepared not only for college and future careers, but also to become critical thinkers, innovators, and problem-solvers. Along the way, every Mercy student is valued, appreciated, and loved.

Mercy Academy is a dynamic school, always growing to meet the needs of today's students. We are committed to continuous improvement, with professional development focused on student learning, collaboration, and meaningful results.

Like our founderess, Catherine McAuley, we at Mercy Academy "strive to do ordinary things extraordinarily well." That is our Mercy way.

In Mercy,



Becky Montague
President



Dr. Cynthina Smith-Ough
Principal

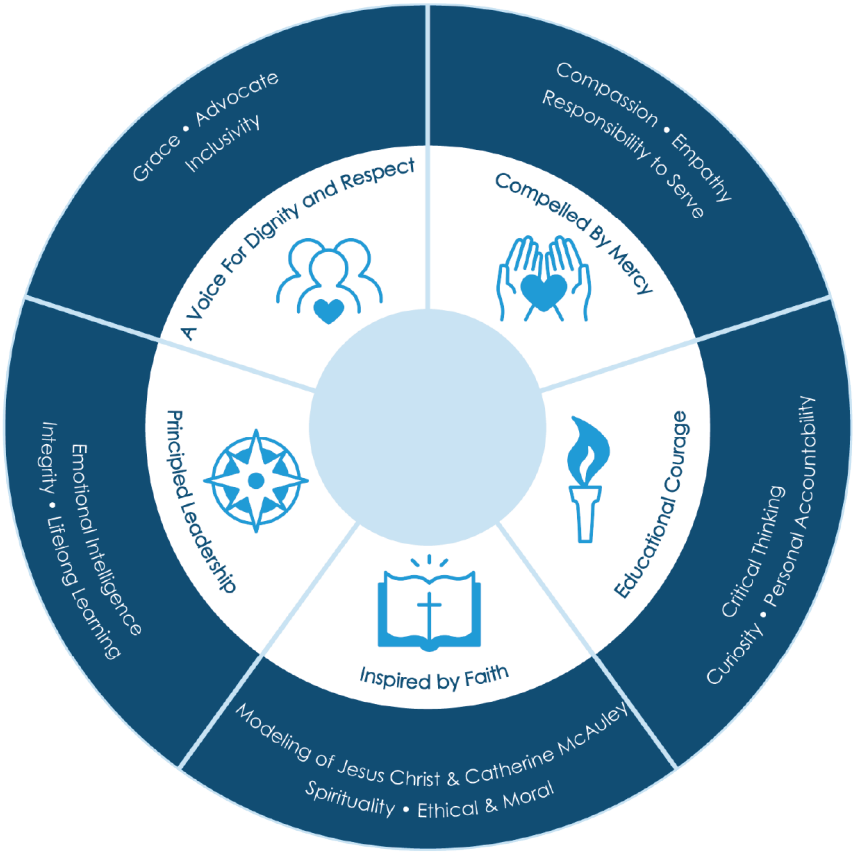
Mercy Academy is dedicated to growing world-ready leaders in the classroom, on campus, in the community, and around the world. Consider "getting ready with Mercy."

#grwMERCY



Characteristics of a Mercy Graduate

Mercy Academy is an all-girls Catholic high school that is a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and a member of Mercy Education. The Sisters of Mercy is a Catholic religious institute founded by Catherine McAuley whose primary mission is to serve those in need. The critical concerns of the Sisters of Mercy are integrated into all aspects of the curriculum, fostering an educational environment rooted in compassion and mercy.



CRITICAL CONCERNS

EARTH | **IMMIGRATION** | **NONVIOLENCE**

RACISM | **WOMEN**



What I love most about Mercy is how diverse it is. I've met so many different people here and grown so much from those experiences.

KARINTON SMITH

CLASS OF 2026

1 of 54

SISTER OF MERCY SCHOOLS IN SIX COUNTRIES AND ONE TERRITORY

(Argentina , Belize, Guam, Honduras, Jamaica, Philippines, and the United States)



I love Mercy because it's helped me grow as a leader and in my faith.

LANE FORST
CLASS OF 2027

500
MEMBER STUDENT BODY
AT MERCY ACADEMY

Why Mercy

Mercy Academy welcomes young women of all faiths. We celebrate diversity and honor the unique backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives each student brings to the community. Our dedicated teachers passionately shape student learning, inspiring academic growth, and helping each student reach her full potential.

With 500 students, Mercy offers a close-knit community with the space and resources of a larger school, featuring a STEM Innovation Center, athletic facilities, tutoring and wellness centers, a beautiful chapel, along with extensive leadership and extracurricular programs.

ALL-GIRLS

As an all-girls school, Mercy empowers students to take the lead, speak up, and grow in confidence. Within this empowering and supportive environment, girls are encouraged to explore their passions and interests freely. They can fully immerse themselves in academics, sports, arts, and leadership opportunities.

FAITH-BASED

Faith is woven throughout the Mercy experience, not only through prayer, retreats and service opportunities, but also by encouraging reflection, moral development, and a sense of purpose. Guided by the values of the Sisters of Mercy, our students become compassionate individuals who positively contribute to their communities and the world.

SERVICE LEARNING & LEADERSHIP

Inspired by Catherine McAuley, our nationally-recognized, four-year service-learning and leadership program transforms Mercy students into empowered, active citizens, and lifelong servants of Christ. Integrated into the school day, this program ensures students participate alongside their classmates, enhancing teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills.

By addressing immediate community needs through direct action and tackling root causes of injustice for long-term change, students develop a comprehensive understanding of social issues. This approach fosters a shared sense of purpose, building a cohesive school community. Ultimately, our program prepares students to be thoughtful, engaged leaders committed to justice and service, embodying the values of a Mercy education.



During the first year at Mercy Academy, students complete a series of service projects aligning with the Sisters of Mercy "Critical Concerns." Students addressed "Earth" by removing invasive plant species at Jefferson Memorial Park.



Scan the QR code to view our full program of studies

Academics

PERFORMANCE-BASED LEARNING

Mercy's educational approach centers on performance-based learning, creating a collaborative environment between students, their peers, and teachers. Our educational approach focuses on real-world, hands-on learning where students demonstrate what they know by applying it in meaningful ways. We celebrate and promote educational courage, valuing their curiosity and active participation. Mercy is developing students into critical thinkers who can showcase their knowledge, not just recite facts and figures, which is essential for their future success in the workplace. Within a safe and supportive space, Mercy empowers students to self-reflect and continuously enhance their capabilities.

BLOCK SCHEDULING

Mercy uses block scheduling, with students attending four of their eight enrolled classes each day. Longer class periods allow for deeper engagement and understanding of the material. The alternating schedule also gives students more time to complete homework and study, reducing stress, and enhancing learning.

FINE ARTS

Mercy's Fine Arts department fosters creativity at all levels. Experienced teachers, who are also practicing artists, mentor students in 2-D and 3-D art, photography, ceramics, graphic design, theatre arts, choral music, playwriting, and creative writing.

STEM

As the first all-girls STEM-accredited school in the U.S., Mercy offers students early exposure to in-demand fields such as engineering, aviation, cyber security, and much more. With partnerships across 30 national agencies, students gain real-world experience and a competitive edge long before college.

ELECTIVES

With over 90 electives, Mercy students tailor their schedules to match their interests and explore new passions.



I love the STEM-related opportunities available, like the underwater research team and the variety of STEM clubs.

AVERY HEFFERNAN

CLASS OF 2026

90

ELECTIVES FOR STUDENTS TO EXPLORE



Our house system is awesome because we get to build relationships across grade levels.

BRITTANY BOCKTING

CLASS OF 2026

6

HOUSES NAMED AFTER STRONG FEMALES IN CATHERINE MCAULEY'S LIFE

House System

When a student comes to Mercy, she is sorted into a house of young women from different grades along with faculty and staff who experience and learn the Mercy traditions together. House System classmates play a key role in each student's Mercy journey, but building relationships across the entire student body — and with faculty and staff — is just as essential to fully experiencing all that Mercy offers.

Throughout each week, time is scheduled for students to meet with their house to complete various activities that fall under one of four identified categories: education, competition, student business, or wellness. House time helps students build relationships, leadership skills, school spirit, and community, while maintaining Mercy's long history of traditions. Each house consists of freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors, along with faculty and staff members. The houses are named after a strong force in our foundress Catherine McAuley's life.

HOUSES

Callaghan House - Named for the Callaghan family who gave Catherine McAuley a place to live when she was an orphan. In their will, they left Catherine the resources to eventually purchase the first House of Mercy in Dublin, Ireland.

Doyle House - Named for Elizabeth Ann Doyle, Catherine's first companion. Alongside Catherine and one other friend, Elizabeth Ann Doyle helped in the foundation of the Sisters of Mercy in 1831.

Ignatius House - Named for Mother Ignatius Walker, who, along with five companions, brought the community of the Sisters of Mercy to Louisville in 1869. She operated the U.S. Marine Hospital and St. Catherine's Academy, now known as the Academy of Our Lady of Mercy.

McLaughlin House - Named for Mother Columba McLaughlin, the first head of school for the Academy of Our Lady of Mercy. She was also Mother Superior of the Louisville community.

Siena House - Named for St. Catherine of Siena, from whom Catherine McAuley received her name. The Academy of Our Lady of Mercy was originally known as St. Catherine's Academy, named for St. Catherine of Siena.

Warde House - Named for Mother Frances Warde, Catherine's closest companion. Frances Warde, along with six companions, brought the Sisters of Mercy to the United States in 1843.



The House System provides multiple leadership opportunities for Mercy Academy students as well as opportunities to engage with different students across different grade levels.



WALK-A-THON



BACK 2 SCHOOL BLAST



FRESHMAN TUNNEL



SENIOR PROM



WALK KICK-OFF



JUNIOR RING CEREMONY



MOTHER-DAUGHTER LUNCHEON



GLOW PEP RALLY

Traditions

Traditions at Mercy Academy hold immense significance, highlighting our culture and fostering unity among students. These events create lasting memories, forge strong bonds, and offer opportunities for leadership, contributing to a rich and memorable high school experience. Take a look at some of our students' favorite traditions!



JUNIOR PROM



SENIOR SKIRT SIGNING



SENIOR SUNRISE



"I love how the traditions at Mercy create memories that stay with you. They remind us that we're all part of something bigger."

JANA LOPEZ

CLASS OF 2026


NEARLY
30 acres



Mercy had the unique opportunity to purchase 5.5 acres of land adjacent to our current campus. Expanding our campus footprint demonstrates the long-term commitment we have for student success. Investing in property allows us to remain an innovative leader in education and in control of our surrounding environment.

to explore

AND SPACE TO GROW



One of my favorite things about our campus is how everything feels designed to support you and help you achieve your goals.

SIDNEY LEE

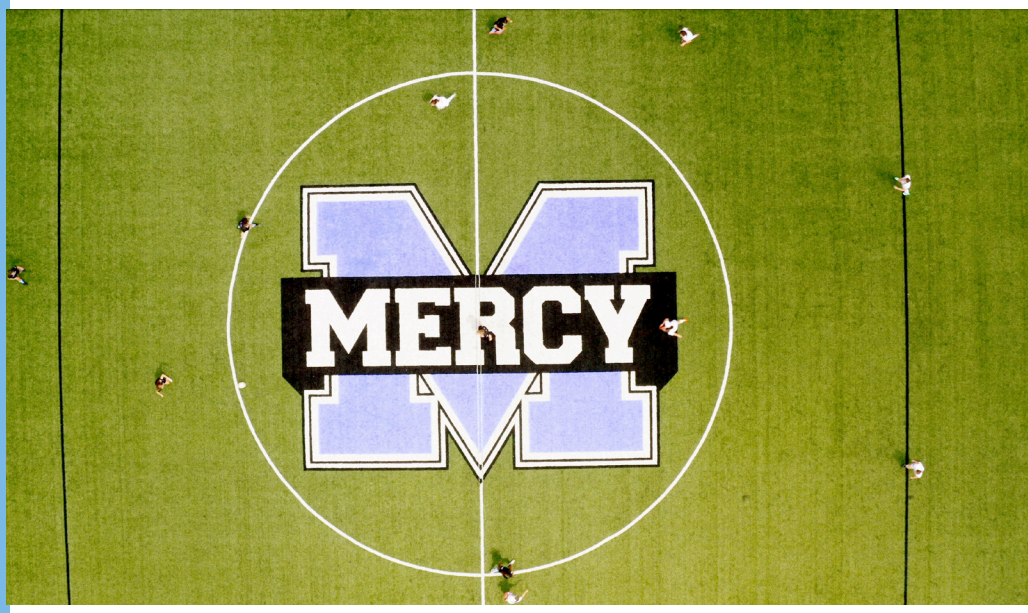
CLASS OF 2028

29.5

ACRE CAMPUS WITH SPACE TO BUILD THE NEW DR. SHERI KALBFLEISCH INNOVATION CENTER, SET TO OPEN IN 2026

Campus

Mercy Academy's serene and all-inclusive 29.5-acre campus in the heart of Louisville is ideally situated near Hurstbourne Parkway and major corridors for effortless access from every direction. The grounds offer lush green spaces, state-of-the-art facilities—Chapel, STEM center, wellness and achievement centers—and ample parking. Mercy Academy is an oasis creating a peaceful, safe, and connected environment for learning and growth.



Facilities

INDOOR

Chapel
STEM Innovation Center
Sister Prisca Achievement Center
Wellness Center
Stock Yards Bank Theatre
Mac Lab
Broadcast Studio
Media Studio
Testing Center
Two Gymnasiums
Fitness & Weight Room
Athletic Training Room
Softball Batting Cages
Archery Range

OUTDOOR

On-Campus Parking
Synthetic Turf Field
Eight Lane Rubberized Track
Bermuda Grass Training Field
One-Mile Running Course
Six Tennis Courts
Softball Field
Softball Batting Cages
Home & Away Locker Rooms
Outdoor Dining
Outdoor Leaning Areas
Ceramics Studio



Mercy Academy's beautifully manicured facilities provide a welcoming environment for students, faculty and staff. We take great pride in our little slice of heaven.



One of my favorite things about Mercy is my supportive soccer teammates who always build me up, and the coaches are awesome, too.

ANNA RAMSEY
CLASS OF 2027

3.75
AVERAGE GPA OF MERCY ACADEMY ATHLETES

Mercy Athletics

Mercy Athletics empowers young women through sixteen (16) interscholastic sports during three seasons. Opportunities include basketball, soccer, lacrosse, softball, field hockey, volleyball, cross-country, track, golf, and more. With over 300 student-athletes, more than 60 coaches, and robust intramurals like powder-puff football, Mercy nurtures judgment, grit, accountability, and spirit—focusing on teamwork, perseverance, and integrity within KHSAA competition and community events.

Mercy Pride
BY THE NUMBERS

16 ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

305 STUDENT-ATHLETES (OVER 60% OF STUDENT BODY)

70 TWO-SPORT ATHLETES

26 THREE-SPORT ATHLETES

7 FOUR-SPORT ATHLETES

Scan the QR code to view athletics information


30
JAGUARS
23
17




JAGUARS
24
JAGUARS
4
JAGUARS
25



Leadership is important to the Mercy Academy experience. Students are encouraged to find their way, even if it includes starting their own club.

There is something for everyone at Mercy!

Mercy Academy offers a wide array of clubs and activities to provide students with many opportunities to get involved. We encourage every student to get involved in something outside of the classroom; we truly believe this makes for a richer high school experience.

Ambassadors

Architecture - Construction Management

Asian Culture Club

Aviation Club

Big Sis/Little Sis

Black Student Union (BSU)

Book Club

Class Officers

Crocheting and Knitting Club

Culinary Club

Fellowship of Mercy Athletes (FMA)

French Club

French National Honor Society

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)

Future Problem Solving

Governor's Scholars Program (GSP)

Governor's School for the Arts (GSA)

Intramural Basketball

Intramural Volleyball

Jags Animal Care Society

Kentucky United Nations Assembly (KUNA)

Kentucky Youth Association (KYA)

Latina Culture Club

Liturgy Planning & Prayer Committee

Make Mercy Real

Mercy Environmental Ambassadors

Mercy Missiles Club (Rocketry)

Mercy Scholars

Mock Trial

Mu Alpha Theta (Mathematics Honor Society)

National Art Honor Society

National Business Honor Society

National English Honor Society

National Honor Society

National Spanish Honor Society

Peer Leaders

Pep Club

Quick Recall

Retreat Leaders

Rho Kappa (National Social Studies Honor Society)

Science National Honor Society

St. Joseph of Arimathea Society

Student Advancement Leadership Team (SALT)

Student Council

Table Top Club

Thespian Society

TikTok Club

Underwater Research Team

Walk Committee



What I really love about Mercy is the guided study option. It's amazing because it helps students who want to work alone in a quieter area, so you can really focus and get your work done.

OLIVIA HERM

CLASS OF 2028

Student Support

PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELORS

At Mercy, we understand the importance of personalized guidance and support, which is why we assign a dedicated counselor to each student as their primary point of contact. Our counseling department is committed to providing students with a safe space where they may seek help for personal and/or educational concerns while being treated with respect and dignity in a confidential manner.

COLLEGE AND CAREER COUNSELING

Mercy offers full-time college and career advising counselors who help students reach their academic and professional goals beyond high school. From exploring college and university admissions and enrollment options at the state, national, and international levels, to offering guidance for career exploration and readiness, students receive expert, individualized guidance.

Seniors can participate in job shadowing experiences, giving them a firsthand look at potential careers. Additionally, all students benefit from a school-wide career conference where the majority of career representatives are women, inspiring our all-girls school community to confidently pursue their passions and ambitions.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS PROGRAM

Mercy provides customized academic support for students with learning, medical, or physical needs. With a current psycho-educational assessment — a comprehensive assessment of a student's cognitive, academic, and socio-emotional functioning — students can receive a personalized accommodation plan developed by our counselors.

Common accommodations include extended time or quiet space for testing, access to an e-reader, printed materials, and more. Freshman with accommodation plans participate in a Guided Study Block for support with academic organization and study skills. Upperclasswomen may continue with Guided Study based on need.

Each student with academic accommodations receives direct support from the Director of Learning Differences, the Learning Specialist Coordinator, a personal guidance counselor, and academic interventionists.

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

This program supports students who need help with organization, missing assignments or test performance. Referred by a teacher or counselor, students work with an academic interventionist to create learning plans that incorporate personalized learning goals and tutoring services. Parental permission and support are necessary for acceptance into this program.

SISTER PRISCA ACHIEVEMENT CENTER (PAC)

The Sister Prisca Achievement Center (PAC) offers daily tutoring and academic support for students in every subject. Staffed by expert interventionists, it models the kind of resource centers found at the collegiate level. With over 3,000 sessions completed last year alone, the PAC is a vital space for learning.



Every Mercy Academy student is different, and we are committed to provding each of them a custom education experience to see them excel.

Mercy Memories

Mercy offers many opportunities for our students to become global learners. Travel experiences are offered for those interested in pursuing studies, service, athletics, art and fun experiences outside of Louisville.



ARGENTINA

Students interested in the Spanish language and culture are invited to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime experience where they host a student from Argentina for a month in February and then go to live with her in Buenos Aires for a month in June. During this direct exchange, students attend our sister school, Santa Ethnea, and explore the city with their host, where they form strong relationships and lifelong memories.



SCOTLAND

Students in Mercy's theatre department were honored to perform at the prestigious Edinburgh Fringe Festival — the world's largest international theatre event — through the American High School Theatre Festival. This was Mercy's second invitation to perform. During the festival, students immerse themselves in a city transformed by creativity, where over 3,000 performers bring stages to life in parks, churches, playgrounds, and beyond.



FRANCE

A large group of Mercy students explored France during a 12-day adventure. They visited historic places including the French Riviera, Eiffel Tower, and Notre Dame Cathedral, walked through beautiful chateaus, gardens, and museums, and relaxed on a cruise along the Seine River.



IRELAND & ENGLAND

A group of students flew across the pond for an 11-day European excursion in Ireland and England. They visited the Blarney Castle, Ring of Kerry, International Mercy Centre, Shakespeare's birthplace, Big Ben, and so much more. This trip was full of awe inspiring art, architecture, and countryside landscapes.



Mercy Academy students experienced a life-changing, 12-day adventure across France from the heart of Paris to the seaside markets in Nice.



Mercy seniors explore New York City, creating lifelong memories through culture, adventure, and shared experiences ahead of their senior year.

Around the World



COSTA RICA

Mercy students have the opportunity to embark on a 10-day scientific adventure to Costa Rica. There, they design and implement their own unique research projects, all while exploring their beautiful surroundings. This in-depth and hands-on research opportunity is encouraged for those interested in continuing their studies in the field, working side-by-side with professional scientists.



NEW YORK CITY

Mercy seniors are invited to spend a jam-packed weekend in New York City with their classmates to kick off their final year together at Mercy. They visit the Statue of Liberty, Times Square, NBC Studios, 9/11 Museum, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and more. It's a trip that they continue to talk about for years after they have graduated.



JAPAN

Mercy students visited Japan over the summer, including a trip to Tokyo and surrounding cities with a focus on engineering, robotics, and the future of cities. They explored the Shibuya District, ascended the Tokyo Skytree, learned about hybrid assistive limb technology at Cyberdyne Studios, and visited other STEM-focused areas. The trip also featured cultural elements such as Mount Fuji, a traditional Japanese tea ceremony, and preparing dinner with a local Japanese chef.



SWITZERLAND & ITALY

Mercy students spent 10 unforgettable days exploring Switzerland and Italy last summer. In Lucerne, they enjoyed fondue, played traditional games, and took in local music. The group also visited Lake Como and traveled through the stunning Swiss Alps. Highlights in Italy included a gondola ride in Venice, a visit to the Vatican, tossing coins into the Trevi Fountain, and wandering the charming streets of Florence.

Inclusive Lunch

Mercy Academy's all-inclusive lunch ensures every student is nourished with healthy, delicious meals served daily. Girls enjoy balanced nutrition that fuels their academic and extracurricular success. Lunch also provides an important opportunity for students to unwind, build friendships, and connect with peers. This daily gathering strengthens the sense of community that defines Mercy—supportive, inclusive, and centered on the well-being of every young woman.







Financial Assistance Information

Concerned about tuition? Don't let that stop you from exploring the opportunities at Mercy Academy. We understand the concerns surrounding tuition costs, and we're here to alleviate those worries. Our goal is to work closely with families to have conversations about affordability and make a Mercy education accessible. Through our tuition assistance and Mercy Day Scholarship programs, we are committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive community, ensuring that every passionate student from the greater Louisville area has the opportunity to thrive.

We are committed to making the Mercy experience possible for your family.

NEED-BASED FINANCIAL AID

Apply through FACTS starting October 15, 2025, at MercyAcademy.com/tuition. Aid is funded by the Mercy Fund and special events.

We encourage families to apply for financial aid by following the steps outlined below:

- Complete the FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment application for Mercy Academy.
- Financial aid applications are due by December 31 for priority consideration and families will receive an email notification from FACTS on March 1 letting them know their financial aid award status.
- Financial aid applications received after December 31 will be reviewed as funding allows.

$1 Million

IN TUITION ASSISTANCE EACH YEAR

MERCY DAY SCHOLARSHIPS

Mercy is proud to offer 50 scholarships funded by generous donors. These are awarded annually based on scholastic ability, service to the community, love for Mercy, etc. In order to receive a Mercy Day Scholarship, your family must qualify for financial aid and submit a separate application (opens in February).

PLACEMENT TEST SCHOLARSHIPS

(Renewable for four years)

1ST PLACE: $3,000 Scholarship

2ND PLACE: $2,500 Scholarship

3RD PLACE: $2,000 Scholarship

90TH PERCENTILE: $1,000 Scholarship

SISTERS' DISCOUNT

Families with more than one student attending Mercy at the same time receive $2,000 off the oldest student's tuition.

Scan the QR code for tuition details.

QUESTIONS?

Emily McCullough
Director of Admissions & Marketing
emccullough@mercyjaguars.com



I am so excited that Mercy is building the new Innovation Center! It will provide us the resources to succeed and encourages us to achieve our goals.

SLOANE MOUSER

CLASS OF 2027

$15 million

MERCY BOLD CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Mercy BOLD

Mercy Academy is poised to make history with its new state-of-the-art STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) building. STEAM incorporates the arts into our strong foundation in STEM, encouraging creativity alongside innovation. The facility, known as the Dr. Sheri Kalbfleisch Innovation Center will enhance student experiences with: two state-of-the-art STEAM shops, a Health Science Lab featuring a digital dissection table and mock medical exam room, a technology classroom for the freshmen Introduction to STEAM course, an outdoor space and courtyard, and so much more.



Development of the project will be made possible through the Mercy BOLD campaign, a $15 million capital campaign to raise meaningful funds designated to build the STEAM Innovation Center, invest in 5.5 acres of adjacent land for further development, and increase the endowment fund to provide tuition assistance to every young woman who dreams of attending Mercy Academy.



Innovation Center

The Dr. Sheri Kalbfleisch Innovation Center will feature two state-of-the-art STEAM shops, a Health Science Lab, a technology classroom, an outdoor classroom and courtyard, two spacious studios for 2D art and ceramics, and four collaborative spaces for project-based learning.

Student Assistance

Students are at the heart of everything we do at Mercy. That's why growing our tuition assistance program is so important. Increasing our annual fund provides support for students today, and a strong endowment will provide consistent funding for tuition assistance in the future.





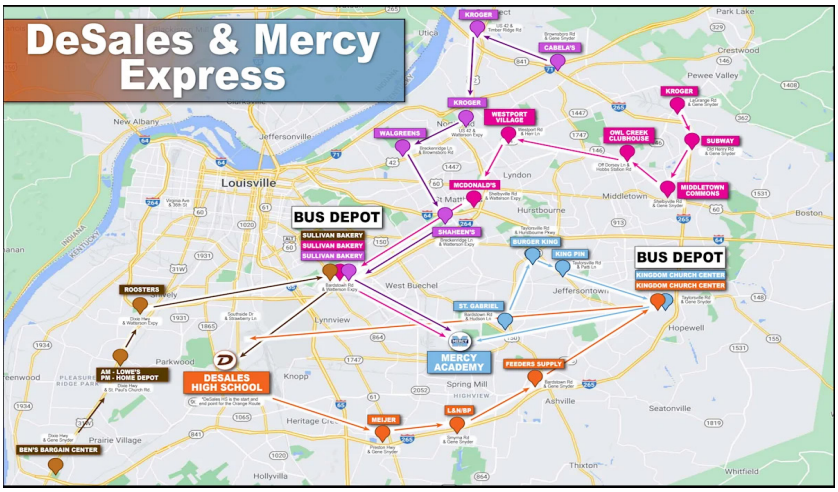
Land Investment

Mercy had the unique opportunity to purchase 5.5 acres of land adjacent to our current campus. Expanding our campus footprint demonstrates the long-term commitment we have for student success. Investing in property allows us to remain an innovative leader in education and in control of our surrounding environment.

Mercy Bus Service

SAFE. RELIABLE. EXCLUSIVE.

We strive to make education accessible to all students in the Greater Louisville area. To achieve this goal, we, along with DeSales High School, provide an optional bus service for our students. Our bus service comprises five routes with nearly 30 stops, ensuring convenient, safe, and reliable transportation options for our students who reside in 45 different zip codes.





QUESTIONS?

Stephanie Heitz, Ed.D.
Director of Operations
(502) 671-2010 ext. 2231.


Scan the QR code
to learn more about
Mercy Bus Service
DESALES & MERCY EXPRESS
STOP
NO. 151
MILLER
TRANSPORT



Students explore the digital dissection table that is a staple in the science department.

Visit Mercy

SHADOWING

Experience Mercy's warm, welcoming atmosphere firsthand! During a shadow visit, your student will attend classes with a current Mercy student, meet teachers, enjoy a complementary lunch, and get a glimpse of Mercy sisterhood. She may request a specific student to shadow or be paired with someone who shares her interests.

SHADOW AT MERCY

8th Graders: Beginning September 2025

7th Graders: Beginning January 2026

OPEN HOUSE - NOVEMBER 9

Join us at our Open House on **Sunday, November 9** from **1 to 4 p.m.** Tour our nearly 30-acre campus, explore academic programs, clubs and athletics, meet current students, and speak with our faculty, administrators and coaches. This event is open to 5th-8th grade families. We hope to see you there!

PLACEMENT TEST - DECEMBER 13

All 8th graders who wish to attend Mercy must take the high school placement test on **Saturday, December 13 at 9 a.m**. A makeup test is available on **Saturday, January 10 at 9 a.m.** for those who cannot make it in December.

Please reach out to **admissions@mercyjaguars.com** if your student needs accommodations for the test. Placement testing is one part of the admissions process. Learn more about applying to Mercy at **mercyacademy.com/admissions.**

STAY UP TO DATE

For more information on registering for open house, the placement test, and other prospective student events, please visit www.mercyacademy.com/visit.



At Mercy, no one goes unnoticed. Everyone belongs, and you'll always feel loved and welcome. You'll definitely find something you're passionate about!

IZZIE YADON

CLASS OF 2026

FOLLOW US!

MERCY ACADEMY

5801 Fegenbush Lane
Louisville, Kentucky 40228
502-671-2010

FOLLOW US!